

CONFIDENTIAL

CLASSIFICATION _____

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone) REPORT _____

TOPIC 1. Volkspolizei Dienststelle in Weiningen
2. General Information on the Volkspolizei

EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____ 50X1-
 DATE OF CONTENT _____ 50X1-HUM

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 6 April 1951

REFERENCES _____

PAGES 5 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

DO NOT CIRCULATE

50X1-HUM

VP Dienststelle in Weiningen

1. After an inspection on 7 November 1950, the 4th VP Bereitschaft of Land Thuringia in Weiningen was deactivated and reorganized into a new-type Bereitschaft. With the exception of the administrative officer, all officers of the unit left the post for reassignment. A large percentage of the enlisted police were transferred to Buhl, Burg, Leipzig, and Halle where a new VP Bereitschaft was to be activated. 50X1-HUM

The majority of its new officers came from the VP school in Jamburg and the VK school in Jorgau, and its enlisted police from the VP Bereitschaft (Armd) in Burg, the VP Bereitschaft (Arty) in Leipzig, and the VP signal communication school in Pirna. On 1 January 1951, the VP Bereitschaft in Weiningen was redesignated VP Dienststelle (command headquarters) (VPD). The new official stamp of the VPD in Weiningen bore the numeral IV and the number 2736.

2. The VPD in Weiningen was the superior headquarters of the VP units in Weiningen and Buhl. The headquarters and one infantry Kommando of three Abteilungen, totaling about 140 officers and 640 police, were located in the barracks installation on Knochenhauerstrasse, Weiningen. The 2d Kommando (Armd) consisting of the 1st, 2d, 3d, 5th, and 7th Sonderabteilungen was stationed in the former Gendarmerie Schule, Buhl, and the 3d Kommando (Arty) consisting of the 4th and 6th Sonderabteilung, in the former Flieger Schule, Buhl. Each of the two Commands numbered 350 to 370 police. (1) In official correspondence, the VP units in Buhl were referred to as "Objekte", the artillery Kommando being Objekt F and the armored Kommando being Objekt G. 50X1-HUM
3. The smallest tactical unit of the VPD was the Gruppe (squad or section) which consisted of 1 WCO and 18 police in an infantry Kommando and of two tank crews in an armored Kommando. 50X1-HUM

the strength of the infantry Gruppe would 50X1-HUM

CLASSIFICATION SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

Document No. 5

No Change in _____

☐ Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS S **G**

Auth.: HR 70-2

Date: 14 AUG 1978

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

50X1

be reduced to one WCO and nine police. Three Gruppen formed a Zug (platoon), five Zuege (platoons) one Abteilung, and several Abteilungen one Kommando. Each Abteilung of an infantry Kommando consisted of five Zuege, the 1st Zug being a mortar unit of 60 to 70 police equipped with four light mortars; the 2d and 3d Zug rifle units with two model 34 light machine guns to each Gruppe; the 4th Zug a heavy machine gun unit with four model 08/15 heavy machine guns, one model Max'm heavy machine gun and two model 34 or D.T. light machine guns, and the 5th Zug a signal unit. (2)

4. Personnel of the VPD in Weiningen included:

VP Kommandeur Bisewski, (fnu)	Commanding officer, a graduate of an Antifa school in the U.S.S.R., who succeeded VP Oberrat Eiggler, (fnu), who left for reassignment on 17 November 1950
VP Oberrat Raubach, (fnu)	PK officer
VP Oberrat Lindner, (fnu)	Chief of staff, who formerly served with a VP unit in Leipzig
VP Rat Nehwald, (fnu)	Assistant PK officer
VP Meister Kraemer, (fnu)	Assistant to the personnel officer
VP Kommissar Michel, (fnu)	Operations officer
VP Rat Schoenherr, (fnu)	Director of training
VP Meister Nietzner, (fnu)	Ordnance officer
VP Kommandeur Balthasar, (fnu)	In charge of classified material
VP Rat Hirschke, (fnu)	Administrative officer
VP Oberkommissar Guentzel, (fnu)	Administrative officer
VP Rat Hoeft, (fnu)	Commanding officer of Objekt G and the 7th Sonderabteilung in Suhl, an ex-tank officer
VP Kommissar Rau, (fnu)	PK officer of Objekt G in Suhl
VP Kommissar Witteck, (fnu)	Chief of staff of Objekt G
VP Oberkommissar Winter, (fnu)	Training officer of Objekt G
VP Kommissar Vogel, (fnu)	Administrative officer of Objekt G
VP Kommissar Gums, (fnu)	Commanding officer of 1st Zug of 7th Sonderabteilung
VP Rat Dombrowski, (fnu)	Commanding officer of Objekt F in Suhl
VP Meister Waterstrat, (fnu)	Staff officer of Objekt F in Suhl

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

3

50X1

VP Meister Bauer, (fnu) Head of the signal-communications office at the VPD in Meiningen

VP Hauptwachtmeister Roellig, (fnu) Head of the telephone station at the signal-communications office

VP Wachtmeister Rokowski, (fnu) Head of the teletype station at the signal-communications office. (3)

5. The VPD in Meiningen was fully equipped with infantry weapons which were either taken from former German Army stocks or delivered by the Soviets, and which were in excellent condition. Each Abteilung had its own ordnance room. German-made weapons included models 08 and 38 pistols, model 98-K carbines, 10-round automatic rifles, models 42 and 44 submachine guns, model 34 light machine guns, model 08/15 heavy machine guns, light and medium mortars, model 18 light field howitzers of 105 mm, and model 18 heavy field howitzers of 150 mm. Soviet-made weapons included model 38 carbines, automatic rifles, submachine guns with 72-round drum magazines, model D.T. light machine guns with 48-round drum magazines, heavy Maxim machine guns with protective shields and mounted on wheeled carriages, heavy mortars, 76.2-mm AT guns, and one T-34 tank. The unit was allegedly to be furnished with two additional tanks. The equipment of the signal platoons included 10-watt ultra short-wave transmitting and receiving sets, model F radiotelephones, 30, 80, and 100-watt transmitters operating on medium wave, model B portable radio sets, 35 one-kilometer units of heavy field wire, fifteen to twenty 500-meter units of light field wire, a switchboard with 10 extensions, model 33 field telephones, teletypewriters and various line building material.
6. A new training period which was to emphasize training at unit level started on 1 January 1951. The GCC was the highest authority coordinating the VP training program and relaying the military training problems to the HVA, which in turn issued detailed directives and transmitted them to the Sovietniks with the VPDs who briefed the German training personnel. Political subjects were dealt with by the PK officers of the VPDs. Classified material of the HVA was sent by couriers directly to the VP officers in charge of such material. Teletype and telephone messages by the HVA were transmitted directly to the officers in charge of classified material. Most of the training instructions were translated excerpts or original copies of Soviet manuals. Each Kommando concentrated its main training effort on its specific branch of service but also pursued training in the other branches of service. For instance, an armored Kommando also received infantry and artillery training. All Kommandos received intensive mortar training. Signal training encompassed radio, telephone and teletype courses, introductory courses in electrical engineering and in cryptographic methods, with emphasis on radio training. Procedures for line, two-way, star, circular control station and net traffic were taught. Codes used included the VP hand code, the VP emergency hand code, the number code and the emergency number code. The transmission of radio signals, radio messages, combat reports, and fire orders was chiefly practiced.

General VP Information

7. A signal-communications course was held in a building of the VP Bereitschaft in Muehlhausen from 1 March to 19 August 1950. In

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

4

50X1

addition to the training subjects mentioned in paragraph 6, the trainees were instructed in the tapping of telephone and teletype lines. During this course, radio signals from Western Germany were received by an ultra-short-wave set on a 27-kilocycle frequency. The radio sets used were former German Army models which were allegedly produced by a German firm in Erfurt and the RFT Firm in Rostock.

8. Under the VP reorganization program, the rank of Unterkommissar, equivalent to the rank of a Soviet junior lieutenant, was introduced. Police who proved themselves qualified as career officers during examinations were promoted to the rank of Unterkommissar. It was planned to have them attend special continuation courses at VP officer schools.
9. The new VPD in Erfurt, which in signal communication traffic had the cover name Elephant, originated from the former 1st VP Bereitschaft of Land Thuringia in Erfurt and from personnel of a VP Bereitschaft in Langensalza. (4) The 2d VP Bereitschaft of Land Thuringia in Langensalza was completely dissolved. Only a VP guard detachment of the VP Bereitschaft in Gotha was stationed in Langensalza in late January. Some personnel of the 2d VP Bereitschaft in Langensalza were transferred to Erfurt to operate the main VP signal-communications center of Land Thuringia.
10. Personnel of the former 6th VP Bereitschaft of Land Thuringia in Gotha were used for the activation of a new VP Bereitschaft, the headquarters and one Kommando of which were stationed in the Buergerau Kaserne and two other Kommandos in the former Flak Kaserne. The new VP Bereitschaft had the cover name Motor in signal traffic. 50X1-HUM
11. The former 7th and 8th VP Bereitschaften of Land Thuringia in Muehlhausen were merged into one new-type VP Bereitschaft commanded by VP Kommandeur Ernst, (fnu). Another officer of the unit was VP Oberrat Oppel, (fnu).
12. A VP signal-communications school was located in Pirna. It was attended by about 3,000 police who came from VP posts all over the Soviet Zone of Germany. The school was organized into seven Kommandos commanded by VP officers with ranks of VP Inspekteur up to and including VP Chefinspekteur. 50X1-HUM
13. The new-type VP Bereitschaft was activated in Leipzig primarily from personnel of the former 2d VP Bereitschaft of Land Saxony. It numbered about 2,000 police.
14. A new VPD of undetermined strength was activated in Zeithain near Riesa in January.
15. Under the reorganization program of the Bereitschaftspolizei, the VP signal-communications centers in Langensalza and Rochstedt were transferred to Erfurt and Halle respectively. The

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY

5

50X1

cover name of the signal-communications center in Erfurt was Habicht (hawk) and that of the signal-communications center in Halle Zeisig (siskin). The HVA had the cover name Einheit (unit), the VPD in Torgau the cover name Komitee (committee) and the VPD in Weiningen the cover name Kultur (culture). VP signal traffic beyond the border of Land Thuringia had to be channeled through the main signal-communications center of Land Thuringia in Erfurt, which was operated by about 60 police, most of whom were telephone, teletype, and radio operators. It was not known whether the Erfurt signal-communications center was also equipped with radio sets. Previously the Volkspolizei of Land Thuringia had only one radio station which was attached to the 7th VP Bereitschaft in Puehlhausen, where signal police practiced with various radio sets in open areas, maintaining connection with the barracks installation on a 33-kilocycle frequency.

16. A VP school was still stationed in Naumburg. Another VP school and a VPD were in Torgau.

Comments.

50X1-HUM

- (1) The organization of the VPD in Weiningen deviates from that of other VPDs. It is believed that the VPD in Weiningen also consists of three infantry Kommandos, one artillery Kommando, and seven Sonderabteilungen, including one tank Sonderabteilung. The discrepancy in organization may be attributed to the fact that the VPD in Weiningen was not completely organized at the time of observation.
- (2) The personnel of a mortar platoon with four mortars probably does not exceed 25 men.
- (3) Only VP Oberrat Eiggler, or Eichler, (fnu), is known. He was identified as the commanding officer of the former 4th VP Bereitschaft of Land Thuringia.
- (4) The new VPD in the Henne Kaserne, Erfurt, was reported.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET-CONTROL/US OFFICIALS ONLY